

DDM04-010

3

RESP1

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating operation of a compression cooling system; said cooling system including a condenser unit; said cooling system including a refrigerant-saturated-assured locus within said condenser unit; said cooling system including a refrigerant-liquid-assured locus generally adjacent to said condenser unit; the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) in no particular order:
 - (1) measuring a first temperature of said refrigerant in a saturated state; said measuring said first temperature being effected within said refrigerant-saturated-assured locus; and
 - (2) measuring a second temperature of said refrigerant in a liquid state; said measuring said second temperature being effected within said refrigerant-liquid-assured locus; and
 - (b) calculating a difference between said first temperature and said second temperature to determine the extant amount of subcooling to which said refrigerant is ~~subjected~~; subjected; and
 - (c) comparing said extant amount of subcooling with a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling to effect said evaluating.
2. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating operation of a compression cooling system as recited in Claim 1 wherein the method comprises the further step of:
 - (e) ~~comparing said extant amount of subcooling with a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling~~
 - (d) changing amount of refrigerant in said cooling system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined difference.

DDM04-010

4

RESP1

3. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating operation of a compression cooling system as recited in Claim 2 wherein ~~the method comprises the further step of:~~
~~(d) changing amount of refrigerant in said cooling system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined amount~~ said cooling system includes a microprocessor control unit coupled for controlling said cooling system, and wherein said comparing is effected in said microprocessor control unit; said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling being stored in said microprocessor control unit.
4. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating operation of a compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 2 wherein ~~the method comprises the further step of:~~
~~(e) adding refrigerant to said cooling system when said extant amount of subcooling is less than a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling~~ said cooling system includes a control unit coupled for controlling said cooling system; said control unit being in communication with a distal site remotely located from said cooling system; said comparing being effected in at least one of said control unit and said distal site; said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling being stored in at least one of said control unit and said distal site.
5. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating operation of a compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 3~~ Claim 2 wherein the method comprises the further step of:
(e) repeating steps (a) through (d) until said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by less than said predetermined ~~amount~~ difference.

DDM04-010

5

RESP1

6. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating operation of a compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 4~~ Claim 3 wherein the method comprises the further step of:
- (d) repeating steps (a) through (c) until said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by less ~~than a~~ than said predetermined ~~amount difference~~.
7. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating refrigerant charge in a compression cooling system; said system including a first system portion in which said refrigerant is substantially always in a saturated state and a second system portion in which said refrigerant is substantially always in a liquid state; the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) in no particular order:
- (1) measuring a first temperature of said refrigerant in said first system portion; and
- (2) measuring a second temperature of said refrigerant in said second system portion;
- (b) calculating a difference between said first temperature and said second temperature to determine the extant amount of subcooling effected by said ~~system.~~ system; and
- (c) comparing said extant amount of subcooling with a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling to effect said evaluating.
8. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating refrigerant charge in a compression cooling system as recited in Claim 7 wherein the method comprises the further step of:

DDM04-010

6

RESP1

~~(c) comparing said extant amount of subcooling with a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling~~

(d) changing amount of said refrigerant in said cooling system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined difference.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating refrigerant charge in a compression cooling system as recited in Claim 8 wherein ~~the method comprises the further step of:~~

(d) changing amount of refrigerant in said cooling system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined amount said cooling system includes a microprocessor control unit coupled for controlling said cooling system, and wherein said comparing is effected in said microprocessor control unit; said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling being stored in said microprocessor control unit.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating refrigerant charge in a compression cooling system as recited in Claim 7 wherein ~~the method comprises the further step of:~~

(e) adding refrigerant to said system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by less than a predetermined amount said cooling system includes a control unit coupled for controlling said cooling system; said control unit being in communication with a distal site remotely located from said cooling system; said comparing being effected in at least one of said control unit and said distal site; said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling being stored in at least one of said control unit and said distal site.

DDM04-010

7

RESP1

11. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating refrigerant charge in a compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 9~~ Claim 8 wherein the method comprises the further step of:
- (e) repeating steps (a) through (d) until said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by less than said predetermined ~~amount~~ difference.
12. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating refrigerant charge in a compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 10~~ Claim 9 wherein the method comprises the further step of:
- (d) repeating steps (a) through (c) until said extant amount of subcooling differs from said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by less ~~than a~~ than said predetermined ~~amount~~ difference.
13. (Currently Amended) A compression cooling system comprising:
- (a) a compressor, an evaporator and a condenser fluidly coupled by at least one fluid carrying line containing a refrigerant; said cooling system including a refrigerant-saturated-assured locus within said condenser; said cooling system including a refrigerant-liquid-assured locus in said fluid carrying line between said condenser and said evaporator generally adjacent to said condenser unit;
- (b) a first temperature measuring device connected with said system for measuring a first temperature of said refrigerant in a saturated state; said measuring being effected within said refrigerant-saturated-assured locus;
and
- (c) a second temperature measuring device connected with said system for measuring a second temperature of said refrigerant in a liquid state; said

DDM04-010

8

RESP1

measuring said second temperature being effected within said refrigerant-liquid-assured locus; and

(d) a calculating device coupled with said first temperature measuring device and said second temperature measuring device; said calculating device calculating a difference between said first temperature and said second temperature to determine an extant amount of subcooling effected by said system.

14. (Currently Amended) A compression cooling system as recited in Claim 13 wherein the system further comprises:

~~(d) a calculating device coupled with said first temperature measuring device and said second temperature measuring device; said calculating device calculating a difference between said first temperature and said second temperature to determine an extant amount of subcooling effected by said system~~

(d) a reservoir unit coupled with said fluid carrying line via a control valve; and

(e) a microprocessor control unit coupled with said calculating device and coupled for controlling said control valve; said microprocessor control unit operating said control valve for changing amount of refrigerant in said fluid carrying line when said extant amount of subcooling differs from a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined difference.

15. (Currently Amended) A compression cooling system as recited in Claim 14 wherein ~~the system further comprises:~~

~~(e) fluid access fittings in said fluid carrying line for effecting fluid communication with the system from without the system; said fluid access fittings being configured to accommodate a user coupling a refrigerant~~

DDM04-010

9

RESP1

~~source with said fittings for changing charge of said refrigerant within said system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined amount~~
said microprocessor control unit includes said calculating device, and
wherein said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling is stored in
said microprocessor control unit.

16. (Currently Amended) A compression cooling system as recited in Claim 15 wherein ~~said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling is provided to said user by a tool; said tool being external of said system~~ said microprocessor control unit is in communication with a distal site remotely located from said cooling system; said calculating being effected in at least one of said microprocessor control unit and said distal site; said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling being stored in at least one of said microprocessor control unit and said distal site.
17. (Currently Amended) A compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 15~~ Claim 13 wherein ~~said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling is provided to said user by said calculating device~~ the system further comprises:
(d) a reservoir unit coupled with said fluid carrying line via a control valve; and
(e) a control unit coupled with said calculating device and coupled for controlling said control valve; said control unit operating said control valve for changing amount of refrigerant in said fluid carrying line when said extant amount of subcooling differs from a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined difference.
18. (Currently Amended) A compression cooling system as recited in ~~Claim 13~~ Claim 17 wherein ~~the system further comprises:~~

DDM04-010

10

RESP1

~~(c) fluid access fittings in said at least one fluid carrying line for effecting fluid communication with the system from without the system; said fluid access fittings being configured to accommodate a user coupling a refrigerant source with said fittings for changing charge of said refrigerant within said system when said extant amount of subcooling differs from a predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling by greater than a predetermined amount~~
said control unit includes said calculating device, and wherein said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling is stored in said control unit.

19. (New) A compression cooling system as recited in Claim 18 wherein said control unit is in communication with a distal site remotely located from said cooling system; said calculating being effected in at least one of said control unit and said distal site; said predetermined acceptable amount of subcooling being stored in at least one of said control unit and said distal site.